

MRFSS Facts and Figures

Virginia 1998



Five Frequently Encountered Fish 1998					
Species	Number Caught (Thousands)	Number Harvested (Thousands)	Pounds Harvested (Thousands)	Number Released (Thousands)	Mean Length (Harvested Fish)
ATLANTIC CROAKER	11,721	6,730	5,920	4,991	11.9"
SUMMER FLOUNDER	5,017	1,165	2,161	3,852	17.0"
BLACK SEA BASS	1,730	398	410	1,332	12.1"
WEAKFISH	1,708	464	839	1,244	15.2"
STRIPED BASS	1,090	294	1,582	796	22.1"

Length data are reported as fork length. (For most species = tip of snout to fork in tail.)

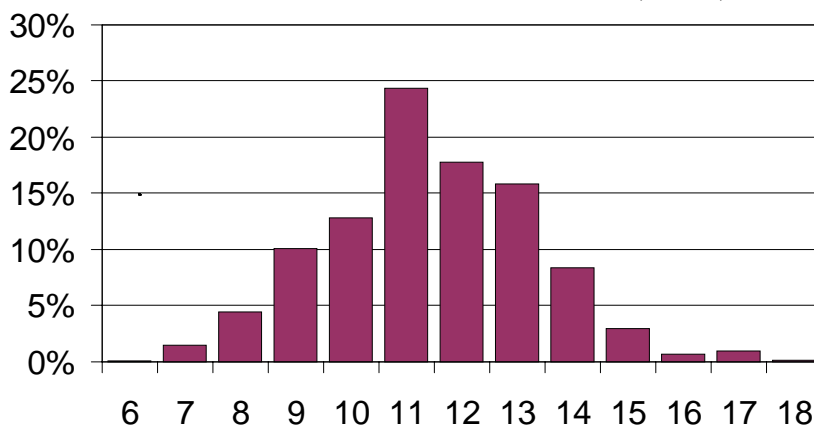
Atlantic Croaker

Micropogonias undulatus



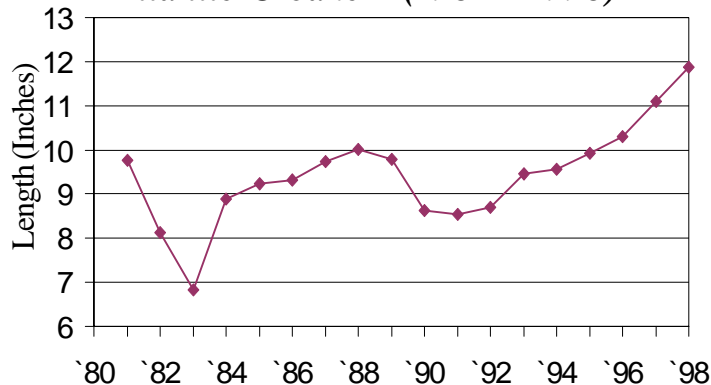
Since 1981, MRFSS field personnel have identified over 90 species of marine fish landed in Virginia.

Length Distribution (in inches) Harvested Atlantic Croaker (1998)

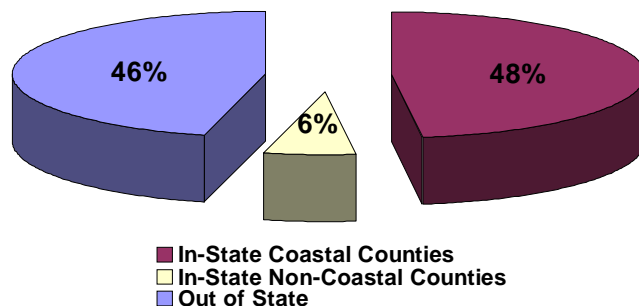


In 1998, over 58% of harvested Atlantic croaker averaged between 11 and 13 inches in length.

Average Length of Harvested Atlantic Croaker (1981 - 1998)

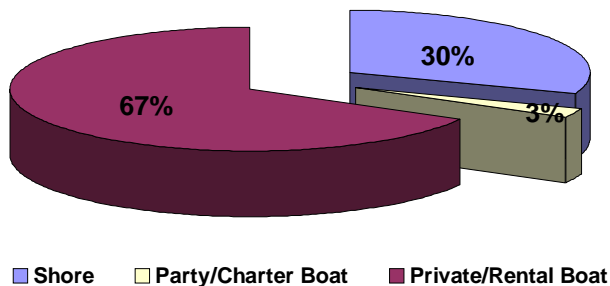


Virginia Anglers' Area of Residence (1998)



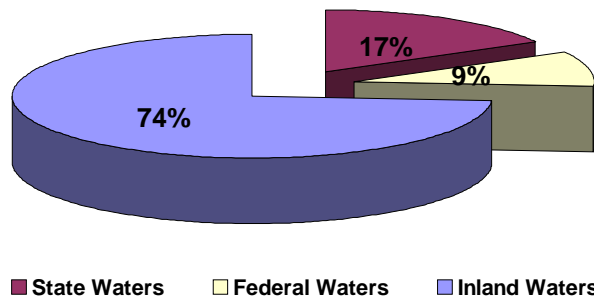
In 1998, nearly 631,000 anglers participated in Virginia's Marine Recreational Fishery.

Saltwater Fishing Trips by Fishing Mode (1998)

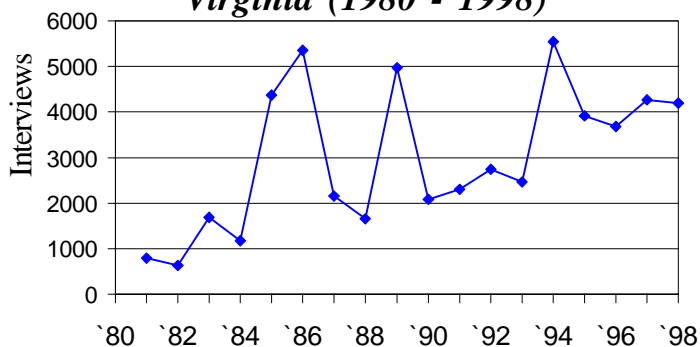


In 1998, anglers took nearly 3.0 million saltwater fishing trips in Virginia.

Saltwater Fishing Trips by Area Fished (1998)

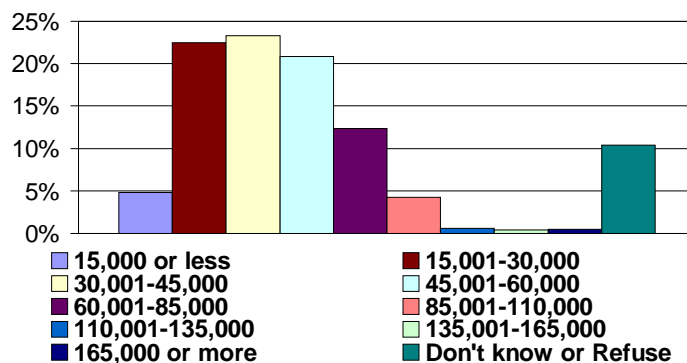


Number of Completed Field Surveys Virginia (1980 - 1998)

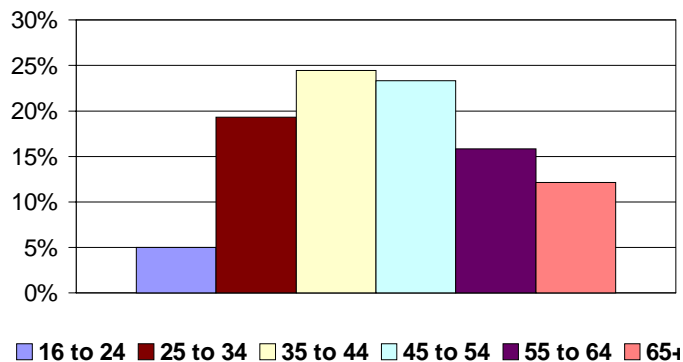


In 1998, MRFSS field personnel completed 4,189 surveys in Virginia.

Income Distribution for Virginia Anglers (1994)



Age Distribution of Virginia Anglers (1994)



Large increases in the number of completed interviews represent years in which state contributions increased the total MRFSS sample size.

In 1998, contributions by the Virginia Marine Fisheries Commission increased the number of completed field surveys by 108% over the base MRFSS and also increased the number of telephone surveys by 38% over the base MRFSS. In addition, contributions by the Potomac River Commission increased the number of telephone surveys by an additional 68% over the base MRFSS.

VIRGINIA MARINE RECREATIONAL FISHING INFORMATION

Virginia Fisheries Management Plans
and Statistics Department
(757) 247-2200

www.state.va.us/mrc/homepage.htm

Virginia Saltwater Fishing
Rules and Regulations
(757) 247-2200

www.state.va.us/mrc/page1f5.htm

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
(302) 674-5399 www.mafmc.org

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
(202) 289-6400 www.asmfc.org